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-----MEDIA RELEASE-----

**MAYOR EDDIE PEREZ TALKS
JOB DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
AT U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS**

(June 9, 2005)--- Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez will talk about preparing our youth today for the jobs of tomorrow when he addresses a workshop at the 73rd Annual Meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Chicago.

Mayor Perez will highlight his "Hartford Blueprint for Young Children"--- which stresses early childhood intervention through education and health care. The goal is for our young people to have the necessary skills to make a successful transition into the school system, and later into the work force.

The Mayor will also promote increasing homeownership and opportunities for families to increase their incomes. This includes the Earned Income Tax Credit--- making sure more qualified residents can claim their money, save it, and grow it.

Hundreds of Mayors from across the country are traveling to the "Windy City" to address a number of other issues confronting our cities and towns. Community Development Block Grants, Homeland Security, Tax Reform, and Unfunded Federal Mandates top the agenda of the conference that runs from June 10th-14th.

For more information on the role of Mayor Perez, please contact Sarah Barr, Director of Communications at (860) 522-4888 x6217.